

WYCOMBE BAFFLED BY HEAVY DEFEAT

By "Argus"

Corinthian Casuals 5;
Wycombe Wanderers 1.

KENNINGTON O V A L, home of cricket drama, became the scene of football mystery on Saturday. How did a team which played so much elegant soccer as Wycombe Wanderers come to lose by a four goals margin? The Wycombe players themselves were staggered and there were some sheepish looks on Corinthian faces at the end of a fine and exciting game.

Casuals deserved the victory. A more compact side, they had a much more aggressive attack and the sounder defence but at no stage were they four goals superior.

And no player who flogged himself so mercilessly as Len Worley deserved to be on the losing side. Worley has developed in football depth since being converted from a brilliant but sometimes rather aloof right-

winger into a crusading, foraging inside-right.

England amateur team selector Norman Creek, present at the Oval to view Corinthian's jet-quick left-winger Pat Neil must have been equally impressed with Worley who could always send big Casuals left-half Mike Smith lunging clumsily the wrong way and who sent over a stream of crosses.

Paul Bates was also in lively form, but despite their individual trickery and, sometimes, collective smoothness the Wycombe attack was beaten by its own weak finishing and the dolphin agility of goalkeeper John Swannell.

The Casuals forwards gave Wycombe's defence a drubbing. The superb craft of Doug Insole—who could give most professional wingers lessons in ball control—and the splendid urging speed of Neil worried the Wycombe backs, but the biggest gaps lay in the centre, where Barry Darvill had a harrassed, troubled game.

With reserve centre-forward Peter James moving briskly and Worley and Bates scheming and prompting Wycombe began with swift raids which should have brought goals but it was Casuals, taking advantage of Wycombe hesitancy to clear, who took a 2-0 lead through inside-right John Sanders. Peter James headed a delightful goal from Worley's cross but the Corinthians' dentist centre-forward Gerry Lee made the interval score 3-1.

The Wanderers made plenty of chances but missed them consistently. They had more of the second half play but it was Casuals who scored—twice. A lightning fast run by Neil laid on number four for Lee and a Corinthian player appeared to handle the ball before Jones punched an Insole cross into his own net.